

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00

SWF-02 AEC-11 SCI-06 ACDA-19 AGR-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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TAGS: EAID, IN, US

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY ON AID TO INDIA

1. FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY BY
AID ADMINISTRATOR DANIEL PARKER BEFORE HOUSE FOREIGN
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE JUNE 11. TEXT IS UNCORRECTED COPY
AND FOR YOUR BACKGROUND ONLY. WILL POUCH CORRECTED
COPY WHEN AVAILABLE.

A. MR. GROSS: IS THERE ANYTHING IN THIS BILL FOR
INDIA?

MR. PARKER. THERE IS A PROPOSAL FOR 75 MILLION FOR
INDIA, PLUS A SMALL AMOUNT, I BELIEVE, IN TITLE II
PL 480.

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MR GROSS. YOU ARE NOT SERIOUS ABOUT THAT AT THIS TIME

ARE YOU?

MR. PARKER. YES, SIR. I THINK IT IS DIFFICULT TO --
NO MATTER WHAT ONE THINKS ABOUT A CONTROVERSIAL GOVERN-
MENT -- IT IS DIFFICULT TO NOT TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION
THERE ARE ALMOST 600 MILLION PEOPLE.

MR. GROSS. YOU HEARD THEY JUST EXPLODED AN ATOMIC
WEAPON OVER THERE, AN ATOMIC BOMB?

MR. PARKER. YES, SIR, MR. GROSS.

MR. GROSS. I THINK WE OUGHT TO GO OUT OF THE BUSINESS
AT LEAST FOR SOME TIME TO COME, ON THE BASIS OF THAT
EXPENDITURE OF MONEY WHEN THEY CANNOT EVEN STOP THE
SCOURGES OF SMALLPOX. THEY HAVE NO MONEY TO SPEND
TO TAKE CARE OF THEIR PEOPLE WITH RESPECT TO SMALLPOX,
TO FEED THEM, AND THEY ARE SPENDING THAT KIND OF MONEY.

B. MR. WILSON. MR. PARKER, HOW CAN WE JUSTIFY \$75
MILLION FOR INDIA BASED ON THEIR POVERTY PLEAS WHEN
THEY JUST SPENT \$175 MILLION TO EXPLODE A NUCLEAR
DEVICE?

MR. PARKER. LET ME, FIRST, SAY I AM -- WOULD BE THE
LAST ONE IN THIS TOWN TO DEBATE THE FACT THAT THE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IS A DEBATABLE GOVERNMENT. I
THINK THEY HAVE DONE A NUMBER OF THINGS THAT A
NUMBER OF PEOPLE WOULD NOT AGREE WITH.

MR. WILSON. CAN YOU THINK OF ONE FRIENDLY GESTURE
THEY MADE TOWARD THE U.S. IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS?

MR. PARKER. I CAN THINK OF A LOT OF THINGS THE
INDIANS HAVE DONE. I AM NOT SURE I AM PREPARED TO
ANSWER ABOUT THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT, BUT I THINK THIS
IS THE FOCUS I WOULD LIKE TO PUT ON IT, THAT THE
INDIAN PEOPLE ARE FINE PEOPLE. THEY ARE PEOPLE
THAT HAVE BEEN BURDENED WITH A TERRIBLE POVERTY. THERE
IS OVER 580 MILLION OF THEM AND I THINK THAT WE ARE
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POSSIBLY GOING TO SEE SOME VERY SIGNIFICANT SHORTAGES
OF FOOD.

MR. WILSON. DID YOU NOTICE THEY ARE ABOUT TO ENTER
INTO SOME SORT OF AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT TO BUILD ARMS AND
MUNITIONS FACTORIES IN EGYPT?

MR. PARKER. NO, SIR, I DID NOT KNOW THAT.

MR. WILSON. DO YOU THINK THAT MIGHT BE RELEVANT TO THIS, THEIR REAL CHAVINISTIC ATTITUDE THEY DEVELOPED THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS. THEY ARE NO LONGER THE PASSIVE PEACEFUL SOCIETY DOWN THERE IT ONCE WAS. I THINK WE HAD BETTER REALIZE THAT.

MR. PARKER. NO RESPONSE.

MR. WILSON. I THINK WE HAD BETTER GET BACK TO THE NUCLEAR DEVICE, TOO.

MR. WILSON. YOU DON'T THINK THERE IS ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN US, OUR GOVERNMENT GIVING THEM THIS MONEY AND THEM EXTENDING \$175 MILLION TO SET OFF A NUCLEAR DEVICE?

MR. PARKER. I DON'T THINK THERE IS INTERCHANGEABILITY OF THE FUNDS. SO IF THAT IS AN IMPLICATION, I WOULD DEBATE THAT.

IF THIS WERE APPROVED AND APPROPRIATED, THE ASSISTANCE THAT WE WOULD PROPOSE FOR INDIA WOULD BE RATHER DIRECTLY PRORATED TO THEIR FOOD PRODUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR PRODUCTIVITY.

MR. WILSON. THEN THAT WOULD FREE OTHER FUNDS THEY MIGHT HAVE TO USE FOR THEIR OWN FOOD FOR THEM TO SPEND ON PERHAPS A DELIVERY VEHICLE FOR THE NUCLEAR DEVICE.

MR. PARKER. I AM NOT SO SURE THIS IS FUNDED IN THIS WAY. FURTHER, I THINK THERE ARE OTHER CONSTRAINTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT WOULD NATURALLY APPLY TO IT. I THINK THE DIVERSION OF PLUTONIUM IS CERTAINLY CLEARLY WITHIN THEIR CAPABILITY, FOR ANY SUPPLIED BY THE UNITED STATES IS CLEARLY CONTROLLED.

I AM SURE OTHERS ARE GOING TO BE QUITE MINDFUL OF CONTROLS ON DIVERSION OF ANY PLUTONIUM GENERATED FROM THEIR SUPPLIED ATOMIC MATERIALS.

MR. WILSON. ARE WE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT NO HEAVY WATER OR PLUTONIUM OR ANYTHING FURNISHED BY THE UNITED STATES, ARE WE CERTAIN THIS DID NOT GO INTO THIS NUCLEAR DVICE?

MR. PARKER. I HAVE INQUIRED AND BEEN TOLD OUR

CONTROLS ARE SUFFICIENTLY TIGHT THAT THIS IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE. I CANNOT PERSONALLY ATTEST TO THAT.

C. MR. BINGHAM. I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN IN WELCOMING MR. PARKER AND COMPLIMENT YOU ON YOUR PRESENTATION CERTAINLY IN TERMS OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE PROGRAM. I THINK IT IS QUITE EXTRAORDINARY. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO COMPLIMENT YOU ON RECRUITING JOHN MURPHY AS YOUR DEPUTY. I SHARE THE DISTRESS OF SOME OF MY COLLEAGUES ABOUT THE PROPORTIONS OF AID, DISPROPORTIONATE AMOUNT FOR SOUTH VIETNAM AND, IN PARTICULAR, AS RELATED TO OTHER COUNTRIES AND WHAT SEEMS TO US AN INADEQUATE PROVISION FOR ISRAEL.

I WILL PASS THE POINT AS TO ISRAEL. I THINK OTHERS HAVE MADE THAT POINT. I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU IF YOU CONSIDER THE AMOUNT FOR INDIA ADEQUATE IN TERMS OF THE THREATENING FOOD SHORTAGE THERE AND THE FACT THAT WE MAY BE CONFRONTED WITH A MAJOR DISASTER IN THE NEXT TWO OR THREE YEARS THERE IN TERMS OF FAMINE?

MR. PARKER. MR. BINGHAM, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO QUANTIFY WHAT THE INDIAN NEEDS ARE. I KNOW THEY ARE GOING TO BE TREMENDOUS. EVEN TO ATTEMPT TO BRING A PARITY OF PRODUCTIVITY OF FOOD WITH CONSUMPTION IS GOING TO BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A VAST UNDERTAKING. THEY HAVE CROWDED THAT LAND AND OVERBURDENED THEIR LAND FOR CENTURIES, I GUESS. AND HOW TO BRING IT BACK TO MAKE IT MORE PRODUCTIVE, MORE VIABLE, IS JUST GOING TO BE OVERWHELMING, BUT AS TO SPECIFICS OF WHAT THEIR NEEDS ARE GOING TO BE NEXT YEAR OR THE YEAR AFTER, ESTIMATES VARY. A GREAT DEAL DEPENDS ON HOW EFFECTIVE THE MONSOON SEASON IS AND THEIR PLANTING, THE SEEDS, THE AMOUNT OF FERTILIZER THEY GET.

THEY HAVE SEEN WITHIN THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS SUBSTANTIAL SHORTAGES IN THE FORM OF ONE OR TWO OR MORE MILLIONS OF TONS OF GRAINS.

MR. BINGHAM. YOU CERTAINLY WOULD NOT, I TRUST, ARGUE THAT BECAUSE YOU ARE ASKING \$750 MILLION FOR SOUTH VIETNAM AND \$75 MILLION FOR INDIA THAT SOUTH VIETNAM IS TEN TIMES AS IMPORTANT?

MR. PARKER. I DO NOT THINK THE TWO ARE QUITE COMPARABLE IN THAT WAY, MR. BINGHAM. I THINK THAT THERE IS A UNIQUE IMPORTANCE TO ANY AREA IN WHICH SO MANY AMERI-

CANS HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES, IN WHICH SUCH VAST AMOUNTS OF AMERICAN INVESTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN ECONOMIC TERMS.

MR. BINGHAM. LET ME JUST SAY FOR THE RECORD THAT I AGREE WITH THE COMMENTS MY COLLEAGUE FROM CALIFORNIA MADE ABOUT SOME OF INDIA'S POLICIES. I AM APPALLED PERSONALLY BY THEIR HAVING DEVOTED THESE RESOURCES TO NUCLEAR DEVICES AND I HAVE CERTAINLY BEEN GREATLY DISTRESSED BY THEIR CONSISTENT SUPPORT OF THE ARABS AGAINST ISRAEL OVER THE YEARS. BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, I AGREE WITH THE IMPLICATIONS OF YOUR ANSWER THAT WE MUST BE CONCERNED WITH PRIMARILY THE PEOPLE OF INDIA AND THAT WE ALWAYS RESPOND GENEROUSLY WHEN THERE IS A QUESTION OF FAMINE OR MAJOR DISASTER AND WHAT WE ARE

ENGAGED IN HERE, I TAKE IT, IS AN EFFORT TO FORESTALL THAT IN INDIA.

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IT IS NOT POLITICALLY RELATED. I TAKE IT YOU WOULD AGREE WITH THAT?

MR. PARKER. YES, INDEED. ONE OF THE MAIN THRUSTS OF THE NEW DIRECTIONS WE ARE UNDERTAKING IS TO HELP PEOPLE BUILD THEIR OWN PRODUCTIVE CAPABILITY WHICH WOULD OBVIATE HAVING TO COME IN WITH MASSIVE EMERGENCY AID. SISCO

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